

RVUCVM Curriculum Digest

SEMESTER	COURSE #	COURSE	CREDITS
YEAR ONE			
1	DVM 1011	Foundations of Animal Health I (48 classroom hours, 32 lab hours) This eight-week course is the first of four courses in the first year of the DVM curriculum. It aims to equip students with knowledge in anatomy (gross and microscopic), physiology and function, and basic imaging in a normal, healthy animal. Each of the four courses will sequentially cover the various body systems of domestic animals through lectures and labs. This course will focus on the integumentary, musculoskeletal, and neurologic systems as well as the special senses.	8
	DVM 1012	Foundations of Animal Health II (32 classroom hours, 32 lab hours) This eight-week course is the second of four courses in the first year of the DVM curriculum aims to equip students with knowledge in anatomy (gross and microscopic), physiology and function, and basic imaging in the normal, healthy animal. Each of the four courses will sequentially cover the various body systems of domestic animals through lectures and labs. This course will focus on cardiovascular and respiratory systems.	6
	DVM 1013	Veterinary Stewardship: Animal Husbandry & Welfare (30 hours classroom) This course provides an in-depth exploration of animal husbandry practices and welfare principles essential for veterinary professionals. Students will learn about the ethical, scientific, and practical aspects of animal care, focusing on the physical and psychological well-being of various species. Key topics include behavior, nutrition, housing/environment, ethical principles, legislation, and standards of care.	2
	DVM 1014	Applied Clinical Techniques I (60 hours lab) The first of six courses in the DVM curriculum focused on the development of clinical skills required for a competent veterinary practitioner. The topics and skills covered in each course align with the subject matter from the concurrent didactic coursework to ensure integration. This course introduces students to biosecurity, safety, handling and physical exams in large and small animals.	2
	DVM 1015	Professional Identity and Life Skills I (30hours classroom and lab) This course is the first in a series of four courses within the DVM curriculum focused on veterinary professional development. Through various learning methods, students will be exposed to topics and skills in the domains of communication, leadership, collaboration and accessibility, ethical behavior, wellness, fiscal responsibility, and scholarship. This course will introduce these domains and lay the foundation for more advanced topic exploration.	1
SEMESTER 1 TOTAL			19

2	DVM 1016	Foundations in Animal Health III (48 classroom hours, 32 lab hours) This eight-week course is the third course in a series of four courses in the first year of the DVM curriculum aims to equip students with knowledge in anatomy (gross and microscopic), physiology and function, and basic imaging in the normal, healthy animal. Each of the four courses will sequentially cover the various body systems of domestic animals through lectures and labs. This course will focus on nutrition and the gastrointestinal and endocrine systems.	8
	DVM 1017	Foundations in Animal Health IV (32 classroom hours, 32 lab hours) This eight-week course is the final course of a series of four in the first year of the DVM curriculum aims to equip students with knowledge in anatomy (gross and microscopic), physiology and function, and basic imaging in the normal, healthy animal. Each of the four courses will sequentially cover the various body systems of domestic animals through lectures and labs. This course will focus on the hepatobiliary, urinary, and reproductive systems.	6
	DVM 1018	One Health: Public Health and Epidemiology (30 hours classroom) This course provides students with a foundation in epidemiology, veterinary public health, and herd health management in the framework of clinical veterinary medicine, One Health Principles, and community service.	2
	DVM 1019	Applied Clinical Techniques II (60 hours lab) The second in a series of six courses in the DVM curriculum focused on the development of clinical skills required for a competent veterinary practitioner. The topics and skills covered in each course align with the subject matter from the concurrent didactic coursework to ensure integration. This course expands on advanced physical examinations and introduces basic therapeutic procedures.	2
	DVM 1020	Professional Identity and Life Skills II (30 hours classroom and lab) This course is the second in a series of four courses within the DVM curriculum focused on veterinary professional development. Through various learning methods, students will be exposed to topics and skills in the domains of communication, leadership, collaboration and accessibility, ethical behavior, wellness, fiscal responsibility, and scholarship. This course will introduce these domains and lay the foundation for more advanced topic exploration.	1
SEMESTER 2 TOTAL			19
YEAR 2			
3	DVM 2010	Animal Health Challenges I (40 classroom hours, 16 lab hours) This eight-week course is the first of four courses within the DVM curriculum which aims to equip students with clinically relevant knowledge in pathology, bacteriology, mycology, virology, parasitology, basic level pharmacology, toxicology and diagnostic imaging in the diseased animal. Each of the four courses will sequentially cover the most important veterinary diseases affecting the various body systems of domestic	6

	animals. This course will focus on general pathology, fundamentals of pathogens, and musculoskeletal disease.	
DVM 2011	Animal Health Challenges II (56 classroom hours, 160 lab hours) This eight-week course is the second in a series of four courses within the DVM curriculum which aims to equip students with clinically relevant knowledge in pathology, bacteriology, mycology, virology, parasitology, basic level pharmacology and diagnostic imaging in the diseased animal. Each of the four courses will sequentially cover the most important veterinary diseases affecting the various body systems of domestic animals. This course will focus on diseases of the neurologic system, special senses, and gastrointestinal systems.	8
DVM 2012	Veterinary Clinical Pharmacology (30 hours classroom) This course provides an in-depth exploration of pharmacologic principles as they apply to the clinical management of animal patients. Students will examine the mechanisms of drug action, pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, and the therapeutic use of pharmaceuticals across major veterinary species. Emphasis is placed on evidence-based drug selection, dosing strategies, adverse drug reactions, drug interactions, and legal and ethical considerations in veterinary drug use. Through case-based learning and clinical scenarios, students will develop the skills necessary to apply pharmacologic knowledge in real-world veterinary practice.	2
DVM 2013	Applied Clinical Pathology for Veterinary Practice (38 hours classroom, 14 hours lab) This course explains pathophysiologic mechanisms responsible for abnormal findings in hematologic, biochemical, cytologic tests, and urinalysis in health and disease of animals. Students will learn a selection of appropriate diagnostic tests for various diseases and how to interpret their results. They will additionally learn basic principles of laboratory medicine, including quality control, reference intervals, specificity, sensitivity, and positive and negative predictive values.	3
DVM 2014	Applied Clinical Techniques III (60 hours lab) The third in a series of six courses in the DVM curriculum focused on the development of clinical skills required for a competent veterinary practitioner. The topics and skills covered in each course align with the subject matter from the concurrent didactic coursework to ensure integration. This course focuses on cardiopulmonary resuscitation and basic surgical skills.	2
DVM 2015	Professional Identity and Life Skills II (30 hours classroom and lab) This course is the third in a series of four courses within the DVM curriculum focused on veterinary professional development. Through various learning methods, students will be exposed to topics and skills in the domains of communication, leadership, collaboration and accessibility, ethical behavior, wellness, fiscal responsibility, and scholarship. This course will introduce these domains and lay the foundation for more advanced topic exploration.	1
SEMESTER 3 TOTAL		22

4	DVM 2016	Animal Health Challenges III (40 classroom hours, 16 lab hours) This eight-week course is the third of four courses within the DVM curriculum aims to equip students with clinically relevant knowledge in pathology, bacteriology, mycology, virology, parasitology, toxicology, basic level pharmacology and diagnostic imaging in the diseased animal. Each of the four courses will sequentially cover the most important veterinary diseases affecting the various body systems of domestic animals. This course will focus on diseases of the hepatobiliary, urinary, and cardiorespiratory systems.	6
	DVM 2017	Animal Health Challenges IV (56 classroom hours, 16 lab hours) The final eight-week course in a series of four courses within the DVM curriculum aims to equip students with clinically relevant knowledge in pathology, bacteriology, mycology, virology, parasitology, basic level pharmacology, toxicology and diagnostic imaging in the diseased animal. Each of the four courses will sequentially cover the most important veterinary diseases affecting the various body systems of domestic animals. This course will focus on diseases of the endocrine, reproductive, and integumentary systems.	8
	DVM 2018	VetVision: Imaging for Diagnosis and Decision-Making (30 hours classroom) Expanding on imaging knowledge from foundational coursework, this course focuses on the use of diagnostic imaging in clinical case management.	2
	DVM 2019	Veterinary Anesthesia and Analgesia (45 hours classroom) This course equips students with foundational knowledge and skills necessary to perform veterinary anesthesia and pain management in animal patients.	3
	DVM 2020	Applied Clinical Techniques IV (60 lab hours) The fourth in a series of six courses in the DVM curriculum focused on the development of clinical skills required for a competent veterinary practitioner. The topics and skills covered in each course align with the subject matter from the concurrent didactic coursework to ensure integration. This course focuses on anesthesia, diagnostic imaging and advanced surgical skills on simulation models.	2
	DVM 2021	Professional Identity and Life Skills IV (30 hours classroom and lab) This course is the final in a series of four courses within the DVM curriculum focused on veterinary professional development. Through various learning methods, students will be exposed to topics and skills in the domains of communication, leadership, collaboration and accessibility, ethical behavior, wellness, fiscal responsibility, and scholarship. This course will introduce these domains and lay the foundation for more advanced topic exploration.	1
	SEMESTER 4 TOTAL		22

YEAR 3

The third pre-clinical year serves as a pivotal transition between foundational veterinary coursework and immersive clinical training. This semester is designed to provide students with both breadth and depth in veterinary medicine through a combination of core, track-required, and elective courses tailored to individual interests and career goals.

Core courses reinforce critical competencies in clinical reasoning, diagnostic skills, and professional readiness. In addition to the core courses, students are required to enroll in 2 track-specific course credits and a minimum of 1 elective course credit within the third year. Students may enroll in a maximum of 20 credits in each semester.

This flexible yet structured semester empowers students to refine their knowledge, strengthen clinical preparedness, and align their academic experience with future aspirations—whether in general practice, specialty medicine, research, or public service.

5 - Core	DVM 3010	Small Animal Medicine and Surgery I (60 hours classroom, 60 hours lab) The first of two small animal surgery and medicine courses, this case-based course is focused on etiology, pathophysiology, epidemiology, clinical presentation, diagnostic evaluation, treatment including surgical interventions and prognosis of commonly observed canine and feline diseases. This course will focus on nutrition, gastrointestinal, hepatobiliary, reproduction, and urogenital systems. as well as endocrinology and oncology.	5
	DVM 3011	Exotic Animal Medicine and Surgery (45 hours classroom) This is a case-based course focused on etiology, pathophysiology, epidemiology, clinical presentation, diagnostic evaluation, treatment (including surgical interventions) and prognosis of commonly observed pet birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish and small mammal diseases.	3
	DVM 3012	Applied Clinical Techniques V (30 hours lab) The fifth in a series of six courses in the DVM curriculum focuses on the development of clinical skills required for a competent veterinary practitioner. The topics and skills covered in each course align with the subject matter from the concurrent didactic coursework to ensure integration. This course guides students as they perform anesthesia and surgery in the live small animal patient under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinary faculty member.	1
	DVM 3013	Intro to Clinics, Clinical Reasoning, and Case Management with NAVLE Prep I (12 hours classroom, 6 hours lab) This integrative course serves as a capstone to the pre-clinical curriculum, bridging the gap between classroom learning and real-world clinical practice. Building on the foundational knowledge and reasoning skills developed throughout the DVM program, this course is designed to prepare students for their upcoming workplace-based clinical experiences. Students will engage in advanced clinical reasoning exercises, collaborative case management simulations, and hands-on skill development that mirror the complexities of clinical practice. Emphasis is placed on synthesizing diagnostic information, formulating differential diagnoses, developing evidence-based treatment plans, and communicating effectively within a veterinary healthcare team. Through structured case discussions, simulated client interactions, and exposure to clinical workflows, students will refine their ability to think critically, manage uncertainty, and make sound clinical decisions. The course introduces a scaffold for students to initiate early preparation for the NAVLE. Sessions will orient students to	1

		the expectations, responsibilities, and professional behaviors essential for success in clinical rotations and beyond.	
	DVM 3014	Transboundary and Emerging Diseases of Animals & Initial Accreditation Training (15 hours online course) This course provides veterinary students with a comprehensive understanding of transboundary and emerging animal diseases (TADs), emphasizing their global impact on animal health, public health, food security, and international trade. Students will explore the epidemiology, pathogenesis, diagnosis, prevention, and control of high-consequence diseases such as Foot-and-Mouth Disease, African Swine Fever, Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza, and others of national and international concern. Integrated into the course is the Initial Accreditation Training (IAT), which prepares students for USDA National Veterinary Accreditation Program (NVAP) certification. Through this component, students will gain foundational knowledge in federal and state regulatory frameworks, animal movement regulations, reportable diseases, and the roles and responsibilities of accredited veterinarians in safeguarding animal and public health.	0
	SEMESTER 5 CORE TOTAL		10
6 - Core	DVM 3015	Small Animal Medicine and Surgery II (60 hours classroom, 60 hours lab) The second of two small animal medicine and surgery courses, this case-based course is focused on etiology, pathophysiology, epidemiology, clinical presentation, diagnostic evaluation, treatment including surgical interventions and prognosis of commonly observed canine and feline diseases. This course will focus on critical care, dermatology, cardiorespiratory, hemolymphatic, neurologic, and musculoskeletal systems.	5
	DVM 3016	Equine Medicine & Surgery (45 hours classroom) Case based course focused on etiology, pathophysiology, epidemiology, clinical presentation, diagnostic evaluation, treatment (including surgical interventions) and prognosis of commonly observed equine diseases.	3
	DVM 3017	Production Animal Medicine & Surgery (45 hours classroom) Case based course focused on etiology, pathophysiology, epidemiology, clinical presentation, diagnostic evaluation, treatment (including surgical interventions) and prognosis of commonly observed production animal diseases.	3
	DVM 3018	Applied Clinical Techniques VI (30 hours lab) The fifth in a series of six courses in the DVM curriculum focuses on the development of clinical skills required for a competent veterinary practitioner. The topics and skills covered in each course align with the subject matter from the concurrent didactic coursework to ensure integration. This course guides students as they perform anesthesia and surgery in the live small animal patient under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinary faculty member.	1

	DVM 3019 Intro to Clinics, Clinical Reasoning, and Case Management with NAVLE Prep II (12 hours classroom, 6 hours lab) This integrative course serves as a capstone to the pre-clinical curriculum, bridging the gap between classroom learning and real-world clinical practice. Building on the foundational knowledge and reasoning skills developed throughout the DVM program, this course is designed to prepare students for their upcoming workplace-based clinical experiences. Students will engage in advanced clinical reasoning exercises, collaborative case management simulations, and hands-on skill development that mirror the complexities of clinical practice. Emphasis is placed on synthesizing diagnostic information, formulating differential diagnoses, developing evidence-based treatment plans, and communicating effectively within a veterinary healthcare team. Through structured case discussions, simulated client interactions, and exposure to clinical workflows, students will refine their ability to think critically, manage uncertainty, and make sound clinical decisions. The course introduces a scaffold for students to initiate early preparation for the NAVLE. Sessions will orient students to the expectations, responsibilities, and professional behaviors essential for success in clinical rotations and beyond.	1
	SEMESTER 6 CORE TOTAL	13
5, 6 – Tracks	PRE-CLINICAL TRACK COURSES SMALL ANIMAL TRACK Requirement: Students must complete a minimum of two (2) credits	
	DVM 5010 Feline Medicine and Surgery (12hours classroom, 6 hours lab) This course provides an in-depth exploration of feline-specific medical conditions, diagnostics, and therapeutic approaches. Designed for students with an interest in small animal practice, the course emphasizes the unique aspects of feline physiology, behavior, and disease presentation that distinguish cats from other companion animals. Through a combination of lectures, case-based discussions, and hands-on labs, students will develop the clinical reasoning and technical skills necessary to diagnose and manage common and complex feline diseases.	1
	DVM 5011 Small Animal Behavior (15 hours classroom) This course provides an in-depth exploration of behavioral medicine in small animal practice, with a focus on the diagnosis, management, and treatment of common behavioral disorders in dogs and cats. Building on foundational knowledge in animal behavior and physiology, students will engage in case-based learning to develop clinical reasoning skills in behavioral assessment and intervention.	1
	DVM 5012 Applied Small Animal Emergency Medicine (12 hours classroom, 6 hours lab) This case-based course builds upon foundational knowledge in physiology, pharmacology, and clinical medicine to prepare students for the diagnosis and management of common small animal emergencies. Through interactive case discussions and simulated scenarios, students will apply clinical reasoning to acute presentations such as trauma, shock, respiratory distress, and toxicities. Emphasis is placed on triage, stabilization, diagnostic prioritization, and evidence-based treatment	1

	planning. The course also reinforces communication and teamwork skills essential for high-pressure clinical environments.	
DVM 5013	Advanced Small Animal Dentistry (9 hours classroom, 12 hours lab) This advanced course builds upon foundational principles of veterinary dentistry introduced during the first two years of the DVM curriculum. Designed for students seeking deeper clinical competence in small animal oral health, the course emphasizes diagnostic reasoning, treatment planning, and technical proficiency in managing complex dental conditions.	1
EQUINE TRACK Requirement: Students must complete a minimum of two (2) credits		
DVM 5014	Advanced Equine Diagnostic Procedures (30 hours lab) This course expands principles introduced in Equine Medicine and Surgery, Applied Clinical Techniques, and other courses taught in the RVU-CVM curriculum applicable to equine practice. Emphasizing a hands-on, case-based approach, the course focuses on the use of advanced imaging, endoscopy, diagnostic sampling, and interpretation techniques in the evaluation of equine patients.	1
DVM 5015	Equine Rehabilitation (15 hours classroom) This course provides veterinary students with comprehensive instruction in the principles and practices of equine rehabilitation. Emphasizing both clinical theory and hands-on application, students will explore modalities such as physical therapy, therapeutic exercise, hydrotherapy, and regenerative medicine. The course integrates musculoskeletal anatomy, injury recovery, and performance optimization, preparing students to develop individualized rehabilitation plans for equine patients. Through case-based learning and practical experience, students will gain the skills necessary to support recovery, enhance mobility, and improve quality of life in equine athletes and companion animals.	1
PRODUCTION ANIMAL TRACK Requirement: Students must complete a minimum of two (2) credits		
DVM 5016	Advanced Production Animal Procedures (30 hours lab) This advanced clinical course equips veterinary students with the knowledge and technical skills necessary to perform and interpret diagnostic procedures in production animal species, including cattle, swine, sheep, and goats. Emphasizing herd-level diagnostics and field-applicable techniques, the course prepares students to support disease surveillance, outbreak investigation, and evidence-based decision-making in production settings.	1
DVM 5017	Small Ruminant Medicine and Surgery (12hours classroom, 6 hours lab) This course provides veterinary students with focused instruction in the medical and surgical management of small ruminants, including sheep, goats, and camelids. Emphasizing both individual animal care and herd health, the course integrates	1

		clinical reasoning, diagnostic techniques, and surgical procedures relevant to small ruminant practice.	
MIXED ANIMAL TRACK Requirement: Students must complete a minimum of two (2) credits			
	DVM 5016	Advanced Production Animal Procedures (30 hours lab) This advanced clinical course equips veterinary students with the knowledge and technical skills necessary to perform and interpret diagnostic procedures in production animal species, including cattle, swine, sheep, and goats.	1
	DVM 5017	Small Ruminant Medicine & Surgery (12hours classroom, 6 hours lab) This course provides veterinary students with focused instruction in the medical and surgical management of small ruminants, including sheep, goats, and camelids. Emphasizing both individual animal care and herd health, the course integrates clinical reasoning, diagnostic techniques, and surgical procedures relevant to small ruminant practice.	1
	DVM 5010	Feline Medicine and Surgery (12h classroom, 6 hours lab) This course provides an in-depth exploration of feline-specific medical conditions, diagnostics, and therapeutic approaches. Designed for students with an interest in small animal practice, the course emphasizes the unique aspects of feline physiology, behavior, and disease presentation that distinguish cats from other companion animals. Through a combination of lectures, case-based discussions, and hands-on labs, students will develop the clinical reasoning and technical skills necessary to diagnose and manage common and complex feline diseases.	1
	DVM 5011	Small Animal Behavior (15 hours classroom) This course provides an in-depth exploration of behavioral medicine in small animal practice, with a focus on the diagnosis, management, and treatment of common behavioral disorders in dogs and cats. Building on foundational knowledge in animal behavior and physiology, students will engage in case-based learning to develop clinical reasoning skills in behavioral assessment and intervention.	1
	DVM 5012	Applied Small Animal Emergency Medicine (12h classroom, 6 hours lab) This case-based course builds upon foundational knowledge in physiology, pharmacology, and clinical medicine to prepare students for the diagnosis and management of common small animal emergencies. Through interactive case discussions and simulated scenarios, students will apply clinical reasoning to acute presentations such as trauma, shock, respiratory distress, and toxicities. Emphasis is placed on triage, stabilization, diagnostic prioritization, and evidence-based treatment planning. The course also reinforces communication and teamwork skills essential for high-pressure clinical environments.	1

	DVM 5013	Advanced Small Animal Dentistry (9 hours classroom, 12 hours lab) This advanced course builds upon foundational principles of veterinary dentistry introduced during the first two years of the DVM curriculum. Designed for students seeking deeper clinical competence in small animal oral health, the course emphasizes diagnostic reasoning, treatment planning, and technical proficiency in managing complex dental conditions.	1
RESEARCH TRACK Requirement: Students must complete DVM 5018 Introduction to Research and Seminar and one (1) additional credit. Minimum two (2) credit track requirement.			
	DVM 5018	Introduction to Research and Seminar (30 lab hours) Students will help design, implement and/or perform data analysis involving the projects of RVU collaborative researchers on one of our three campuses or off campus. These research programs range across the spectrum: education-based studies, bench top projects, clinical/field trials, One Health endeavors and Interprofessional collaborations.	1
	DVM 5019	Public Practice Problem-Solving (15 hours classroom) This course introduces veterinary students to the critical role of veterinarians in public practice, including working with government agencies such as the CDC, FDA, USDA, and state health departments. Through case-based learning and real-world scenarios, students will explore how veterinarians contribute to public health, food safety, disaster response, and infectious disease outbreak investigations. The course emphasizes interdisciplinary collaboration, systems thinking, and applied problem-solving in complex, high-stakes environments.	1
	DVM 5020	Wildlife and Zoological Medicine (15 hours classroom) This course provides veterinary students with an introduction to the principles and practices of wildlife and zoological medicine. Emphasizing the medical, ecological, and ethical aspects of caring for nondomestic species, the course explores the diagnosis, treatment, and management of diseases in captive and free-ranging wildlife, zoo animals, and exotic pets.	1
5, 6 - Elective	PRE-CLINICAL ELECTIVE COURSES		
	DVM 5021	Practice Management (15 hours classroom) This advanced course builds upon foundational principles introduced throughout the first five semesters of the DVM curriculum within the Professional Identity and Life Skills courses. Guiding students through the complex and dynamic landscape of veterinary practice management. Through a case-based learning approach, students will apply their prior knowledge to real-world scenarios involving business operations, financial decision-making, human resource challenges, marketing strategies, and legal and ethical considerations.	1

DVM 5020	Wildlife and Zoological Medicine (15 hours classroom) This course provides veterinary students with an introduction to the principles and practices of wildlife and zoological medicine. Emphasizing the medical, ecological, and ethical aspects of caring for nondomestic species, the course explores the diagnosis, treatment, and management of diseases in captive and free-ranging wildlife, zoo animals, and exotic pets.	1
DVM 5019	Public Practice Problem-Solving (15 hours classroom) This course introduces veterinary students to the critical role of veterinarians in public practice, including working with government agencies such as the CDC, FDA, USDA, and state health departments. Through case-based learning and real-world scenarios, students will explore how veterinarians contribute to public health, food safety, disaster response, and infectious disease outbreak investigations. The course emphasizes interdisciplinary collaboration, systems thinking, and applied problem-solving in complex, high-stakes environments.	1
DVM 5018	Introduction to Research and Seminar (30 lab hours) Students will help design, implement and/or perform data analysis involving the projects of RVU collaborative researchers on one of our three campuses or off campus. These research programs range across the spectrum: education-based studies, bench top projects, clinical/field trials, One Health endeavors and Interprofessional collaborations.	1
DVM 5016	Advanced Production Animal Procedures (30 hours lab) This advanced clinical course equips veterinary students with the knowledge and technical skills necessary to perform and interpret diagnostic procedures in production animal species, including cattle, swine, sheep, and goats.	1
DVM 5017	Small Ruminant Medicine & Surgery (12 hours classroom, 6 hours lab) This course provides veterinary students with focused instruction in the medical and surgical management of small ruminants, including sheep, goats, and camelids. Emphasizing both individual animal care and herd health, the course integrates clinical reasoning, diagnostic techniques, and surgical procedures relevant to small ruminant practice.	1
DVM 5014	Advanced Equine Diagnostic Procedures (30 hours lab) This course expands principles introduced in Equine Medicine and Surgery, Applied Clinical Techniques, and other courses taught in the RVU-CVM curriculum applicable to equine practice. Emphasizing a hands-on, case-based approach, the course focuses on the use of advanced imaging, endoscopy, diagnostic sampling, and interpretation techniques in the evaluation of equine patients.	1
DVM 5015	Equine Rehabilitation (15 hours classroom) This course provides veterinary students with comprehensive instruction in the principles and practices of equine rehabilitation. Emphasizing both clinical theory and	1

		hands-on application, students will explore modalities such as physical therapy, therapeutic exercise, hydrotherapy, and regenerative medicine. The course integrates musculoskeletal anatomy, injury recovery, and performance optimization, preparing students to develop individualized rehabilitation plans for equine patients. Through case-based learning and practical experience, students will gain the skills necessary to support recovery, enhance mobility, and improve quality of life in equine athletes and companion animals.	
	DVM 5010	Feline Medicine and Surgery (12 hours classroom, 6 hours lab) This course provides an in-depth exploration of feline-specific medical conditions, diagnostics, and therapeutic approaches. Designed for students with an interest in small animal practice, the course emphasizes the unique aspects of feline physiology, behavior, and disease presentation that distinguish cats from other companion animals. Through a combination of lectures, case-based discussions, and hands-on labs, students will develop the clinical reasoning and technical skills necessary to diagnose and manage common and complex feline diseases.	1
	DVM 5011	Small Animal Behavior (15 hours classroom) This course provides an in-depth exploration of behavioral medicine in small animal practice, with a focus on the diagnosis, management, and treatment of common behavioral disorders in dogs and cats. Building on foundational knowledge in animal behavior and physiology, students will engage in case-based learning to develop clinical reasoning skills in behavioral assessment and intervention.	1
	DVM 5012	Applied Small Animal Emergency Medicine (12 hours classroom, 6 hours lab) This case-based course builds upon foundational knowledge in physiology, pharmacology, and clinical medicine to prepare students for the diagnosis and management of common small animal emergencies. Through interactive case discussions and simulated scenarios, students will apply clinical reasoning to acute presentations such as trauma, shock, respiratory distress, and toxicities. Emphasis is placed on triage, stabilization, diagnostic prioritization, and evidence-based treatment planning. The course also reinforces communication and teamwork skills essential for high-pressure clinical environments.	1
	DVM 5013	Advanced Small Animal Dentistry (9 hours classroom, 12 hours lab) This advanced course builds upon foundational principles of veterinary dentistry introduced during the first two years of the DVM curriculum. Designed for students seeking deeper clinical competence in small animal oral health, the course emphasizes diagnostic reasoning, treatment planning, and technical proficiency in managing complex dental conditions.	1
SEMESTER 5 and 6 MINIMUM ELECTIVE CREDIT TOTAL			1
YEAR 4 – CLINICAL YEAR			
The clinical year includes a tracking program that allows students to tailor their clinical education based on their career interests. Students select a Small Animal, Equine, Production Animal, Mixed Animal or Research Track, which determines the structure of required clinical rotations.			

All students must complete a set of four core rotations that ensure exposure to essential clinical competencies. Beyond these, students focus on their chosen track through a series of track-specific required rotations, providing depth of experience in relevant species and clinical settings.

In addition to these required rotations, students have the flexibility to design individualized experiences through externships. This structure ensures that all students meet foundational clinical requirements while allowing customization to align with personal interests and career goals as they prepare for professional practice. Students are provided with a four-week vacation block.

Rotation Break October-November Window – NAVLE (4 weeks = 0 credits)

While consistent study throughout the curriculum is the foundation for NAVLE® success, this dedicated break during the fall semester is designed to support final review and reinforce key concepts. Students are encouraged to use this time to consolidate knowledge, revisit high-yield topics, and engage in focused, low-stress preparation. Equally important is prioritizing rest and well-being to ensure mental sharpness and readiness for exam day.

This required break allows students to continue their independent study and sit for the North American Veterinary Licensing Examination (NAVLE®).

Summer, Fall, Spring	CORE ROTATIONS		
	DVM 4010	Small Animal General Practice (4 weeks workplace-based learning) This four-week rotation provides veterinary students with practical experience in a primary care setting, focusing on the comprehensive management of small animal patients in a general practice environment. Students will participate in all aspects of outpatient and inpatient care, including wellness exams, vaccinations, routine diagnostics, minor surgical procedures, dental care, and client education. Under the supervision of experienced general practitioners, students will refine their skills in physical examination, diagnostic interpretation, clinical decision making, and communication with clients and the healthcare team. Emphasis is placed on preventive medicine, case continuity, and the development of efficient, evidence-based treatment plans.	4
	DVM 4011	Shelter Medicine and Surgery (4 weeks workplace-based learning) This four-week clinical rotation provides clinical year veterinary students with immersive, hands-on experience in the field of shelter medicine. Students will work closely with shelter veterinarians and staff to deliver high-quality medical care to underserved animal populations in a variety of shelter settings. The rotation emphasizes population health management, infectious disease control, high-volume spay/neuter surgery, preventive care, and behavioral wellness. Students will gain experience in clinical decision-making, resource-limited medicine, and public health as it relates to animal welfare.	4
	DVM 4012	Large Animal Ambulatory (2 weeks workplace-based learning) This two-week clinical rotation provides veterinary students with hands-on experience in the ambulatory service at RVREC, working with both equine and production animal species. The rotation emphasizes the delivery of veterinary care in field settings. Students will rotate through each ambulatory service and work closely with RVUCVM faculty to develop practical skills in physical examination, diagnostics, treatment, herd health management, and client communication.	2

	DVM 4013	Veterinary Diagnostic Pathology (2 weeks workplace-based learning) This two-week rotation provides veterinary students with foundational and applied experience in veterinary anatomic and clinical pathology, with a primary focus on necropsy procedures and diagnostic interpretation. Students will actively participate in the postmortem examination of a variety of animal species, including companion animals, livestock, and exotics, under the supervision of board-certified pathologists.	2
	CORE ROTATIONS TOTAL		12
	CLINICAL TRACK ROTATIONS		
	SMALL ANIMAL		
	DVM 4014	Small Animal General Practice (4 weeks workplace-based learning) This four-week rotation provides veterinary students with practical experience in a primary care setting, focusing on the comprehensive management of small animal patients in a general practice environment. Students will participate in all aspects of outpatient and inpatient care, including wellness exams, vaccinations, routine diagnostics, minor surgical procedures, dental care, and client education. Under the supervision of experienced general practitioners, students will refine their skills in physical examination, diagnostic interpretation, clinical decision making, and communication with clients and the healthcare team. Emphasis is placed on preventive medicine, case continuity, and the development of efficient, evidence-based treatment plans.	4
	DVM 4015	Small Animal Emergency Medicine (4 weeks workplace-based learning) This intensive clinical rotation immerses clinical year veterinary students in the fast-paced environment of small animal emergency medicine. Under the direct supervision of experienced emergency veterinarians, students will manage a wide range of acute medical and surgical cases, including trauma, shock, respiratory distress, and toxicities. Students will develop proficiency in triage, stabilization, advanced diagnostics, fluid therapy, pain management, and critical care monitoring. Emphasis is placed on clinical reasoning, rapid decision-making, and effective communication with clients and the veterinary team. Daily rounds, case discussions, and hands-on procedures such as catheter placement, CPR, and point-of-care diagnostics are integral components of the rotation.	4
	DVM 4016	Small Animal Specialty Practice (4 weeks workplace-based learning) This flexible clinical rotation allows clinical year veterinary students to tailor their learning experience by selecting small animal specialty services. Options may include, but are not limited to, internal medicine, surgery, cardiology, dermatology, neurology, oncology, ophthalmology, dentistry, behavior, and rehabilitation. Students will engage in hands-on clinical activities, including patient evaluations, diagnostic workups, treatment planning, and client communication under the supervision of board-certified specialists. Each selected service provides immersive exposure to specialty-specific cases, procedures, and clinical reasoning. and service-specific learning.	4

SMALL ANIMAL TRACK REQUIRED ROTATIONS TOTAL		12
DVM 4024	Externships: Students are required to complete four (4) externships. Each 4-week externship may be selected from: • A list of clinical sites or • A facility of the student's choice, subject to college approval.	16
SMALL ANIMAL TRACK TOTAL		28
EQUINE		
DVM 4017	Equine Private Practice (4 weeks workplace-based learning) This clinical rotation provides veterinary students with immersive, real-world experience in equine private practice. Students will work alongside experienced equine practitioners in ambulatory or hospital-based settings, gaining exposure to the daily operations, case management, and client interactions typical of private equine practice.	4
DVM 4018	Other College of Veterinary Medicine (4 weeks workplace-based learning) This clerkship provides veterinary students with the opportunity to gain advanced experience in large animal medicine and surgery by participating in clinical services at other accredited Colleges of Veterinary Medicine. Students will work closely with faculty, interns, and residents in a teaching hospital environment, gaining exposure to referral-level diagnostics, therapeutics, and case management.	4
DVM 4019	Equine Ambulatory (4 weeks workplace-based learning) This four-week clinical rotation provides veterinary students with field-based experience in primary and emergency equine care. Students participate in real-world practice settings, traveling with clinicians to barns, stables, and ranches to deliver comprehensive veterinary care outside the hospital environment.	4
EQUINE TRACK REQUIRED ROTATIONS TOTAL		12
DVM 4024	Externships: Students are required to complete four (4) externships. Each 4-week externship may be selected from: • A list of clinical sites or • A facility of the student's choice, subject to college approval.	16
EQUINE TRACK TOTAL		28
PRODUCTION ANIMAL		
DVM 4020	Production Animal Private Practice (4 weeks workplace-based learning) This clerkship provides final year veterinary students with immersive, hands-on experience in the diagnosis, treatment, and management of diseases in food-producing animals, including cattle, sheep, goats, and swine. This rotation emphasizes clinical reasoning, herd health, and production medicine in both field and hospital settings.	4
DVM 4021	Production Animal Ambulatory (4 weeks workplace-based learning) This four-week clinical rotation provides veterinary students with field-based	4

	experience in primary and emergency production animal care. Students participate in real-world practice settings, traveling with clinicians to barns, stables, and ranches to deliver comprehensive veterinary care outside the hospital environment.	
DVM 4018	Other College of Veterinary Medicine (4 weeks workplace-based learning) This clerkship provides veterinary students with the opportunity to gain advanced experience in large animal medicine and surgery by participating in clinical services at other accredited Colleges of Veterinary Medicine. Students will work closely with faculty, interns, and residents in a teaching hospital environment, gaining exposure to referral-level diagnostics, therapeutics, and case management.	4
PRODUCTION ANIMAL TRACK REQUIRED ROTATIONS TOTAL		12
DVM 4024	Externships: Students are required to complete four (4) externships. Each 4-week externship may be selected from: • A list of clinical sites or • A facility of the student's choice, subject to college approval.	16
PRODUCTION ANIMAL TRACK TOTAL CREDIT HOURS		28
MIXED ANIMAL		
DVM 4022	Mixed Animal Private Practice (4 weeks workplace-based learning) This rotation provides veterinary students with immersive, hands-on experience in both small and large animal practice. This rotation is designed to develop clinical reasoning, diagnostic acumen, and therapeutic decision-making across a diverse caseload, reflecting the realities of mixed animal practice.	4
DVM 4015	Small Animal Emergency Medicine (4 weeks workplace-based learning) This intensive clinical rotation immerses clinical year veterinary students in the fast-paced environment of small animal emergency medicine. Under the direct supervision of experienced emergency veterinarians, students will manage a wide range of acute medical and surgical cases, including trauma, shock, respiratory distress, and toxicities. Students will develop proficiency in triage, stabilization, advanced diagnostics, fluid therapy, pain management, and critical care monitoring. Emphasis is placed on clinical reasoning, rapid decision-making, and effective communication with clients and the veterinary team. Daily rounds, case discussions, and hands-on procedures such as catheter placement, CPR, and point-of-care diagnostics are integral components of the rotation.	4
Students must choose one (1) of the rotations below. Rotation will be scheduled based on availability.		
DVM 4018	Other College of Veterinary Medicine (4 weeks workplace-based learning) This clerkship provides veterinary students with the opportunity to gain advanced experience in large animal medicine and surgery by participating in clinical services at other accredited Colleges of Veterinary Medicine. Students will work closely with faculty, interns, and residents in a teaching hospital environment, gaining exposure to referral-level diagnostics, therapeutics, and case management.	4

	DVM 4016	Small Animal Specialty Practice (4 weeks workplace-based learning) This flexible clinical rotation allows clinical year veterinary students to tailor their learning experience by selecting small animal specialty services. Options may include, but are not limited to, internal medicine, surgery, cardiology, dermatology, neurology, oncology, ophthalmology, dentistry, behavior, and rehabilitation. Students will engage in hands-on clinical activities, including patient evaluations, diagnostic workups, treatment planning, and client communication under the supervision of board-certified specialists. Each selected service provides immersive exposure to specialty-specific cases, procedures, and clinical reasoning.	4
	MIXED ANIMAL TRACK REQUIRED ROTATIONS		12
	DVM 4024	Externships: Students are required to complete four (4) externships. Each 4-week externship may be selected from: • A list of clinical sites or • A facility of the student's choice, subject to college approval.	16
	MIXED ANIMAL TRACK TOTAL		28
	RESEARCH		
	DVM 4023	VetSCOPE: Veterinary Scholarly Opportunities in Practice and Exploration (4 weeks workplace-based learning) VetSCOPE is an immersive 12-week research clerkship opportunity that empowers veterinary students to engage directly in the scientific process through hands-on participation in benchtop research. Designed to cultivate critical thinking, scientific literacy, and investigative skills, this course offers students the opportunity to contribute meaningfully to ongoing research projects under the mentorship of faculty investigators. Students may choose to participate in either: • Research at Montana State University, where they explore laboratory-based investigations in areas such as microbiology, pathology, pharmacology, or molecular biology, developing technical skills and contributing to hypothesis-driven discovery with a CVM research faculty member. • Science Conservation Center, where students will engage in both benchtop and field-based research projects conducted on-site at ZooMontana, focusing on wildlife conservation and applied science, under the supervision of a CVM faculty member (capped at 2 students per year). Throughout the rotation, students will engage in literature review, data interpretation, and scientific communication, culminating in a presentation or written report of their findings. VetSCOPE is ideal for students considering careers in academia, industry, or evidence-based clinical practice.	12
	DVM 4016	Small Animal Specialty Practice (4 weeks workplace-based learning) This flexible clinical rotation allows clinical year veterinary students to tailor their learning experience by selecting small animal specialty services. Options may include, but are not limited to, internal medicine, surgery, cardiology, dermatology, neurology, oncology, ophthalmology, dentistry, behavior, and rehabilitation.	4

		Students will engage in hands-on clinical activities, including patient evaluations, diagnostic workups, treatment planning, and client communication under the supervision of board-certified specialists. Each selected service provides immersive exposure to specialty-specific cases, procedures, and clinical reasoning.	
	DVM 4015	Small Animal Emergency Medicine (4 weeks workplace-based learning) This intensive clinical rotation immerses clinical year veterinary students in the fast-paced environment of small animal emergency medicine. Under the direct supervision of experienced emergency veterinarians, students will manage a wide range of acute medical and surgical cases, including trauma, shock, respiratory distress, and toxicities. Students will develop proficiency in triage, stabilization, advanced diagnostics, fluid therapy, pain management, and critical care monitoring. Emphasis is placed on clinical reasoning, rapid decision-making, and effective communication with clients and the veterinary team. Daily rounds, case discussions, and hands-on procedures such as catheter placement, CPR, and point-of-care diagnostics are integral components of the rotation.	4
	RESEARCH TRACK REQUIRED ROTATIONS		20
	DVM 4024	Externships: Students are required to complete two (2) externships. Each 4-week externship may be selected from: • A list of clinical sites or • A facility of the student’s choice, subject to college approval.	8
	RESEARCH TRACK TOTAL		28
FINAL CLINICAL YEAR CREDITS			
CORE ROTATIONS CREDIT TOTAL			12
TRACK AND EXTERNSHIP REQUIREMENTS			28
TOTAL MINIMUM CLINICAL YEAR CREDITS			40
TOTAL PROGRAM REQUIRED COURSE AND ROTATION CREDITS			145
PROGRAM MINIMUM REQUIRED PRE-CLINICAL TRACK AND ELECTIVE CREDITS			3
MINIMUM REQUIRED CREDITS FOR PROGRAM COMPLETION			148